

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCI-06 DOTE-00 EA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 EB-11

OIC-04 SS-15 NSC-10 IO-12 FMC-04 RSR-01 /127 W
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R 121545 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1089
INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 1718

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN OECD

SUBJECT: ECMT COUNCIL MEETING, JUNE 13-15

REF OECD PARIS 5281

1. MFA TRANSPORT ADVISER HAS GIVEN US FOLLOWING BACKGROUND RE INVITATION TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION BRINEGAR TO ATTEND ABOVE MEETING IN THE HAGUE. STATUS OF EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT (ECMT) BY DEFINITION MAKES IT FITTING TO INVITE SECRETARY. IT IS BELIEVED USEFUL TO INVITE MINISTERS OF NON- EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, SUCH AS U. S., CANADA AND JAPAN, OWING TO COMMON INTEREST IN RESEARCH AND OTHER SUBJECTS DEALT WITH. ECMT HOPES THAT U. S. AND CANADA WILL BECOME ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AS JAPAN NOW IS. (PROBABLE AGENDA INCLUDES POLICY AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF INLAND SURFACE TRANSPORT.)

2. COMMENT: IT WOULD APPEAR TO US HERE THAT DISCUSSION OF INLAND TRANSPORTATION POLICY AT THIS LEVEL COULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE VALUE TO U. S. INTERESTS. AMERICAN SUPPLIERS TELL US, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT HARMONIZATION OF WEIGHT, SIZE AND SAFETY LIMITATIONS ON TRUCKS, DANGEROUS GOODS CONTAINERS, ETC. COULD FACILITATE OUR EXPORTS TO EC OF BOTH VEHICLES AND CONTAINERIZED DANGEROUS GOODS.

3. QUITE APART FROM SUBSTANCE OF AGENDA, HOWEVER, WE ARE STRONGLY OF VIEW THAT JUNE VISIT TO HAGUE OF U. S. CABINET OFFICER WOULD
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BE OF GREAT AND TIMELY BENEFIT TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH DUTCH. NEW GOVERNMENT WILL PRESUMABLY BE FORMED BY THAT TIME, AND WHATEVER ITS ORIENTATION WILL BE IN PROCESS OF DEFINING ITS POSITION ON TRADE, MONETARY AND OTHER CURRENT ISSUES, NOT LEAST OF WHICH IS ISSUE OF U. S. / EC RELATIONSHIP.

4. BY HIS VERY PRESENCE, SECRETARY BRINEGAR WOULD SYMBOLIZE TO DUTCH AND OTHERS PRESENT IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES TO OUR TIES WITH EUROPE AND TO CONTINUED ATLANTIC CONSULTATION ON PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL CONCERN, SUCH AS TRANSPORTATION POLICY.

5. WHATEVER DECISION MAY BE WE WOULD WELCOME EARLY INFORMATION ON CONSTITUTION OF USDEL. WE ASSUME USOECD OBSERVER WILL ATTEND AS USUAL.
TANGUY

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